

rougeâtre . . . . . Gorge blanche . . . . . Cou antérieur,  
poitrine et flancs roussâtres avec des lignes noires . . . . .  
Ventre blanc . . . . . Bec mi-parti de brun et de jaune . . . . .  
Jambes jaunes ; pieds noirâtres par-dessus, jaunes en  
dessous . . . . . Le mâle a une petite huppe rougeâtre . . . . .  
Pic. *Encycl. méth.*”

P. 45.—“8. LE CRABIER gentil. *Ardea audax*. Pic. Pyrén.  
Pl. xxiv.

— CRABIER marron.	} BUFF.
— CRABIER roux.	
— GUACCO.	

“Ce trois espèces doivent être réduite à une seule . . . . .  
Ce Crabier est de la grandeur de l'*Aigrette* . . . . . Tête,  
cou, poitrine et dos jaunes . . . . . Aigrette longue et  
pendante . . . . . Ailes, queue et ventre blancs . . . . . Bec  
fort très-aigu, bleu d'azur, noir à la pointe . . . . .  
Jambes et pieds couleur de chair. Pic. *Mém. de  
Stock. et Encycl. méth.*”

The words “Pic. Pyrén.” refer to ‘Recherches sur la  
Zoologie des Pyrénées, par Philippe PICOT. Figures  
enluminées . . . . . Ouvrage inédit,’ according to his  
“Explication des Abréviations.”

### XXIX.—Note on the Genus *Certhiparus*.

By Captain F. W. HUTTON, F.R.S.

OF the three birds included in the genus *Certhiparus* in the  
‘Cat. Birds Brit. Mus.’ (vol. viii. p. 75), three different  
views have been taken by ornithologists:—

I.—Lafresnaye, in 1840, placed *C. albicillus* and *C. novæ-  
zealandiæ* in one genus and *C. ochrocephalus* in another.  
This view was followed by Gray, in the ‘Zoology of the  
Erebus and Terror’ (1848) and by Dr. Finsch in the ‘Journ.  
f. Orn.’ for 1843.

II.—In ‘The Ibis’ for 1862 Gray separated *C. albicillus*  
from *C. novæ-zealandiæ*, and included it in *Orthonyx* along

with *C. ochrocephalus*. This view has been followed by Sir Walter Buller.

III.—In 1883 Dr. Gadow, in the ‘Cat. Birds Brit. Mus.’ included all three birds in the same genus.

A re-examination of these forms has convinced me that Dr. Gadow is right in placing all three in the same family, but that Gray and Buller are correct in separating *C. novæ-zealandiæ* from the others generically; while I also agree with Lafresnaye and Finsch that *C. ochrocephalus* and *C. albicillus* cannot be kept in the same genus on account of the great differences in their legs and feet. So, in my opinion, each species should form a separate genus.

Next as to the names. The type of *Certhiparus* is *C. albicillus*, and this name must, therefore, be kept for that species. For *C. ochrocephalus* the oldest name is *Mohua* of Lesson (1837). Quoy and Gaimard had stated that the Maori name of this species is *Mohoua* (which, however, was a mistake), and Gray apparently altered the spelling to suit his own views. I see no good reason for dropping *Mohua* in favour of *Clitonyx*. For *C. novæ-zealandiæ* we should have had *Phyllodytes* of Finsch, but unfortunately that name is preoccupied by Wagler (1830) in Batrachia, and by Gistel (1848) in Reptilia; so that a new one must be substituted. I therefore propose that this genus should be called *Finschia*, in honour of Dr. Otto Finsch, so well known as an ornithologist, and one who has given us much help in New Zealand. My scheme of classification is therefore as follows:—

Tail shorter than the wing, the shafts of the feathers projecting.	
Hind claw longer than the bill.....	<i>Mohua</i> .
Hind claw shorter than the bill .....	<i>Certhiparus</i> .
Tail as long as the wing, the shafts of the feathers not projecting.....	<i>Finschia</i> .

In *Mohua* the tarsus has only three or four scutes which are often fused into one, the divisions being obliterated; while in *Certhiparus* there are five or six scutes, and the divisions are never obliterated.